

**3.15 The Relationship Between Local Short-Term Uses
of the Environment and the Maintenance and
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With any development project, there are tradeoffs between impacts on the natural and man-made environments and the resulting project-related benefits. Each of the build alternatives considered in this Revised DEIS has similar, albeit varying, impacts that are common for transportation improvement projects, including right-of-way acquisition and the resulting displacement and relocation of structures, residences, and business establishments; economic changes; increased traffic noise; changes in the visual environment; and loss of natural areas such as wetlands and wildlife habitat. These impacts, however, are not considered to outweigh the long-term benefits of the project, and, in general, can be mitigated. The proposed improvements are designed to meet future traffic needs of the local community and the larger region that have been identified as resulting from projected growth and development trends. The project is expected to result in a long-term improvement in public mobility, access, and safety. It can be concluded, therefore, that the local short-term impacts and use of resources by the proposed project are consistent with the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity for the Puget Sound community.

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